THE WNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

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Filing Date:

Application No.:

February 15, 2002

Applicant:

Bone et al.

Group Art Unit:

3724

Examiner:

Clark F. Dexter

Title:

Clamping Mechanism

Attorney Docket:

0275S-000327DVA

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Miscellaneous Action mailed December 16, 2002, please amend and reconsider the above referenced patent application as follows.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract as shown in the attached marked up version of the abstract. Pursuant to MPEP 608.01(b) and 37 C.F.R. § 1.72(b) and 37 CFR 1.72(b) a clean copy of the Abstract on a separate sheet is provided.